

Serial No.: Continuation of Serial No. 08/932,427

comparing the number of operations corresponding to a plurality of physical disk units which store said designated logical volume with each other;

selecting the single physical disk unit from the disk units storing the designated logical volume which has a minimum number of operations based on the comparison;

judging whether or not said device adapter connected to said selected single minimum waiting physical disk is normal from referring statuses of said connected device adapters; and outputting a request to said determined device adapter.

16. (NEW) The access control method according to claim 15, wherein said determining comprising determining said plurality of disk units by referring a logical volume structure table storing statuses and said plurality of physical disk units of each logical volume;

said selecting comprising selecting the single physical disk unit by comparing the number of operations in a disk management table storing the number of operations and said statuses of said connected device adapters of each physical disk unit; and

said judging said device adapter comprising judging whether or not said device adapter is normal by referring said disk management table.

#### **REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to improve the form of the specification as originally-filed.

It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 5/16/2003

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